

Notice of Section 401 Application Reception

File Number: 302021-01

Project Name: San Diego Creek Reach 1 Rotational Maintenance Pilot Project

Date Application Posted: 1/26/2021

Received: 1/4/2021

Project City: Santa Ana

Project County: Orange

Applicant Organization: Orange County Public Works

Applicant Name: James Volz

Waterboard Staff: MZ

Brief Description of Project:

Project Description: The purpose of the project is to complete a pilot project to assess results to the health and vigor of replanted mulefat and willow. The goal of the pilot project is to show that habitat can be improved by removing sediment that has built up over time and then replacing the willow and mulefat. Currently, sediment deposition is thought to be a cause of habitat degradation since the roots of the willow and mulefat continue to move further from the water table. This project is expected to provide an environmental enhancement to the 200 ft section of sediment buildup that is proposed to be removed. Any invasive plant species in the immediate vicinity will be removed as well. The pilot project is expected to show success to be used for sediment removal for a future rotational maintenance program in San Diego Creek Reach I.

Project Activities: Sediment and vegetation will be removed from an approximately 200 ft x 100 ft area (0.50 acres) to return the site to as-built conditions. The project limits begin approximately 1,000 ft downstream Campus Drive and ends approximately 1,300 ft downstream Campus Drive. Crews will enter the site within project limits. OC Public Works in-house O&M crews will use an excavator, dozer, and dump trucks to remove the sediment. They will start their removal from the edge of the bench adjacent to flows and pull the material back to the trail. The material will then be disposed of properly off site. The San Diego Creek Trail is expected to be closed within this reach for the duration of the project or flaggers will be required. Work will be completed outside of vireo nesting season.